

reading the header data in said transferred voice data file;

on the basis of the header data that has been read, selecting a central dictation system; and transferring said voice data from said personal computer to said selected central dictation system.

REMARKS

Claims 1, 8-11, 18-29 and 35-43 remain in this application. The pending claims stand rejected and are now presented for reconsideration in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

In addition, claim 21 was objected to. It is noted that claim 21 has been amended as indicated above to overcome the objection thereto.

Claims 1-20 were "rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite".

In regard to claim 1, the phrase "said other data processing device" has been rewritten as --said other information processing device--. In regard to claim 11, the phrase "said other information processing device" has been rewritten as --an information processing device--. In claims 18 and 20 the phrase "the other information processing device" has been rewritten as --the information processing device--. In addition, claim 19 has been rewritten in independent form so as to obviate the §112 rejection thereof.

It is believed that the above-recited claim amendments are responsive to the §112, second paragraph, rejection, and that such rejection has accordingly been overcome.

Claims 1, 8, 10, 11, 18, 20 and 29 were "rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated" by the Suzuki reference.

Claim 1, as now amended, is directed to a "voice data management system" including "a portable digital audio recorder which includes memory means for storing a plurality of voice data files". It is recited that the memory means stores "corresponding header data in association with each of the stored data files". Further recited in claim 1 are "a personal computer" and "means for transferring one of said voice data files and the corresponding header data from the portable recorder to the personal computer". Claim 1 further recites "an information processing device other than said portable recorder and said personal computer" and "means, interconnecting said personal computer with said other information processing device, for permitting transmission of data from said personal computer to said other information processing device". It is also recited in claim 1 that "said personal computer reads said header data transferred to the personal computer and uses said header data to determine whether to transfer the corresponding voice data file to said other information processing device."

Finally, claim 1 also recites that the "header data that is used to determined whether to transfer the corresponding voice data file to said other information processing device is indicative of one of (a) an identity of said portable digital audio recorder; (b) a subject matter of the voice data file corresponding to said header data; and (c) a work type of the voice data file corresponding to said header data."

It is noted that the Suzuki reference discloses using destination ID data to route information uploaded from a PDA to a server. However, the reference is silent as to using header data indicative of an identity of a portable digital audio recorder, a subject matter of a voice data file, or a work type of a voice data file to determine whether to transfer a voice data file to another information processing device from a personal computer. It is accordingly submitted that claim 1, as now amended, is patentably distinguished from the Suzuki reference.

Claims 8 and 10 are dependent on claim 1 and are submitted as patentable on the same basis as claim 1.

Claim 11 has been amended, in similar fashion to claim 1, to recite using header data indicative of one of an identity of a portable digital audio recorder, a subject matter of a voice data file, and a work type of a voice data file to determine whether to transfer voice data from a personal computer to an information processing device. This feature is not taught in the Suzuki reference, and is believed to render claim 11 patentable over the reference.

Claims 18 and 20 are dependent on claim 11 and are submitted as patentable on the same basis as claim 11.

Claim 29 has been amended in similar fashion to claim 1 so as to recite using header data that is indicative of an identity of a portable digital audio recorder, a subject matter of a voice data file or a work type of a voice data file to select an information processing device. This feature is not taught or suggested by the Suzuki reference and is believed to render claim 29 patentable over the reference.

Claims 34 and 36 are dependent on claim 29 and are submitted as patentable on the same basis as claim 29.

Claims 9, 19, 21-28, 35 and 37-43 have been rejected under §103(a) based on combinations of references that include the Kahn reference. However, it is noted that the filing date of the Kahn reference is November 20, 1998 which is later than the filing date (November 12, 1998) of the present application. Accordingly, the Kahn reference is not properly citable as prior art against the present application. It is therefore submitted that the rejections based on the Kahn reference should be withdrawn.

For the foregoing reasons, it is submitted that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Passage to issue is respectfully solicited.

A Request for a One-Month Extension of Time and the requisite fee accompany this Amendment. Also accompanying this Amendment is a payment in the amount of \$252.00 in regard to three independent claims now presented in addition to the independent claims which have previously been paid for.

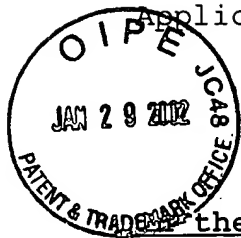
Applicants do not believe any other fees are due regarding this amendment. If any additional fees are required, however, please charge Deposit Account No. 04-1696. Applicants encourage the Examiner to telephone Applicants' attorney to discuss the amendment should any issues remain.

Respectfully submitted,



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Dated: January 29, 2001  
Tarrytown, New York

VERSION MARKED TO SHOW CHANGESIn the Specification:

The paragraph beginning at page 17, line 1 has been amended to read as follows.

It should also be understood that the data communication between the PC 16 and other components of the voice data management system 10 (Fig. 1) may be implemented by connections other than or in [additional] addition to the local area network 24 referred to above. Thus, one or more of dial-up telephone data lines, dedicated telephone data channels, a wide area network, and/or wireless data communication may be provided to interconnect system components. The constituents of the voice data management system may be more or fewer in number than those shown in Fig. 1. For example, more than one central dictation system may be connected to the PC 16.

In the Claims:

Claims 1, 9-11, 18-21, 29 and 35 have been amended to read as follows.

1. (Amended) A voice data management system, comprising:

a portable digital audio recorder which includes memory means for storing a plurality of voice data files, said memory means storing corresponding header data in association with each of the stored data files;

a personal computer;

means for transferring one of said voice data files and the corresponding header data from the portable recorder to the personal computer;

an information processing device other than said portable recorder and said personal computer; and

means, interconnecting said personal computer with said other information processing device, for permitting transmission of data from said personal computer to said other [data] information processing device;

wherein said personal computer reads said header data transferred to the personal computer[,] and [on the basis of] uses said header data[, determines] to determine whether to transfer the corresponding voice data file to said other information processing device;

wherein said header data that is used to determine whether to transfer the corresponding voice data file to said other information processing device is indicative of one of (a) an identity of said portable digital audio recorder; (b) a subject matter of the voice data file corresponding to said header data; and (c) a work type of the voice data file corresponding to said header data.

9. (Amended) A voice data management system [according to claim 1, wherein said other information processing device is], comprising:

a portable digital audio recorder which includes memory means for storing a plurality of voice data files, said memory means storing corresponding header data in association with each of the stored data files;

a personal computer;

means for transferring one of said voice data files and the corresponding header data from the portable recorder to the personal computer;

a central dictation system; and

means, interconnecting said personal computer with said central dictation system, for permitting transmission

of data from said personal computer to said central dictation system;

wherein said personal computer reads said header data transferred to the personal computer, and on the basis of said header data, determines whether to transfer the corresponding voice data file to said central dictation system.

10. (Amended) A voice data management system according to claim 1, wherein said other information processing [devices] device is a voice mail system.

11. (Amended) A method of operating a voice data management system, comprising the steps of:

generating a voice data file in a portable digital audio recorder, said file including voice data and header data;

transferring said voice data file from said recorder to a personal computer;

reading the header data in said transferred voice data file; and

[on the basis of] using the header data [that has been read, determining] to determine whether to transfer said voice data from said personal computer to [said other] an information processing device;

wherein said header data that is used to determine whether to transfer the voice data to said information processing device is indicative of one of (a) an identity of said portable digital audio recorder; (b) a subject matter of the voice data file; and (c) a work type of the voice data file.

18. (Amended) A method according to claim 11, wherein the [other] information processing device is another personal computer.

19. (Amended) A method [according to claim 11, wherein the other information processing device is] of operating a voice data management system, comprising the steps of:

generating a voice data file in a portable digital audio recorder, said file including voice data and header data;

transferring said voice data file from said recorder to a personal computer;

reading the header data in said transferred voice data file; and

on the basis of the header data that has been read, determining whether to transfer said voice data from said personal computer to a central dictation system.

20. (Amended) A method according to claim 11, wherein the [other] information processing device is a voice mail system.

21. (Amended) A voice data management system, comprising:

a portable digital audio recorder which includes memory means for storing a plurality of voice data files, said memory means storing corresponding header data in association with each of the stored voice data files;

a personal computer;



means for transferring said voice data files and the corresponding header data from the portable recorder to the personal computer;

a plurality of information processing devices other than said portable recorder and said personal computer; and

means, interconnecting said personal computer with said plurality of information processing devices, for permitting transmission of data from said personal computer to a selected [ones] one of said plurality of data processing devices;

wherein said personal computer reads said header data transferred to the personal computer, and on the basis of said header data, selects one of said plurality of information processing devices to receive a voice data file corresponding to said header data and transmits the corresponding voice data file to the selected data processing device.

29. (Amended) A method of operating a voice data management system, comprising the steps of:

generating a voice data file in a portable digital audio recorder, said file including voice data and header data;

transferring said voice data file from said recorder to a personal computer;

reading the header data in said transferred voice data file;

[on the basis of] using the header data [that has been read, selecting] to select an information processing device separate from said personal computer; and

transferring said voice data from said personal computer to said selected information processing device;  
wherein said header data that is used to select said information processing device is indicative of one of (a) an identity of said portable digital audio recorder; (b) a subject matter of the voice data file; and (c) a work type of the voice data file.

35. (Amended) A method [according to claim 29, wherein the selected information processing device is] of operating a voice data management system, comprising the steps of:

generating a voice data file in a portable digital audio recorder, said file including voice data and header data;

transferring said voice data file from said recorder to a personal computer;

reading the header data in said transferred voice data file;

on the basis of the header data that has been read, selecting a central dictation system; and

transferring said voice data from said personal computer to said selected central dictation system.